Guaranteed Power Projects

1274. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to guarantee power projects if the State Electricity Boards' average cost of power supply is higher than the procurement cost from the guaranteed projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the State electricity Boards to the proposal of Union Government; and

(d) the gurantee provided by the Union Government after this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) no such proposal is under consideration of the Government of India at present.

(b) to (d) do not arise in view to reply (a) above.

Power Failure at Panki Power Sub-Station in Kanpur

1275. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Panki, a small power sub-station on the outskirts of Kanpur, which serves as a junction to route power to surrounding up linking stations, among Muradnagar and Obra developed a big problem;

(b) whether it took just two minutes from the time the snag developed at Panki for a blackout at these two stations and within two hours six northern States saw their lights go out;

(c) if so, what were the causes of such a big power failure; and

(d) what safeguards have been taken so that such an incident does not occur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) several factors contributed to the grid collapse on 2nd January, 2001. One pole of Rihand-Dadri HVDC line was out of service from 14th December, 2000 due to multiple failure of converter transformers. This had restricted the transmission capability between the eastern part, where all pit-head generation is located and western part of the Northern Region, where major load centres are located. On the night of 1st/2nd January, 2001, a number of 220 KV and 400 KV lines of the U.P. transmission system (including 400 KV Obra-Panki line and 400 KV Panki-Muradnagar line) had tripped and this